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BULLETIN



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The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

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Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia
INCORPORATED 1988

PUBLICATION NO VBH122
Registered by Australia Post

JUNE 1994

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Unsolved Mysteries has forwarded to us, feed-back comments by viewers who 'phoned after the Frederick Valentich Documentary was televised on a second television network in the United States.

The second telecast was shown on the 30th December 1993. Response was much greater than the September viewing. The following are examples from the latest telecast, with our comments added.

1. Caller flew in Air Force in 1978. He was in Australia at the time of the Valentich incident and remembers ~hearing a Qantas Airline crew which observed UFO movement down there~. He monitored the Qantas crew alert and his own crew was also alerted for UFO's.

Editors' comment: This is an important contact. By the time this edition goes to press, the pilot will have been contacted for interview. Judith Magee and Paul Norman were present at the Royal Victorian Aero Club the day after the Valentich encounter and collected information from Australian contacts.

2. Two experienced pilots in two aircraft, both sighted pulsating green ~sausage-shaped~ UFO's travelling at extremely high speeds and making sharp turns in Airspace between Sanford, Maine and Nashua, New Hampshire. The pilots can be contacted.

Comment: Follow-up is in progress.

3. Caller feels that we should get the tape of astronaut Armstrong's Walk on The Moon; who yelled ~BOGIE AT 4 O'CLOCK~, ~BOGIE AT 4 O'CLOCK~, twice!

Comment: VUFORS is aware of a number of Astronaut sightings, including McDivitt and Gordon Gooper, and have their recorded statements.

4. Caller said he and family spotted a UFO and took pictures of it. The sighting occurred near Grand Junction in Colorado. The family saw the object following a 'plane. The UFO was shaped like a saucer.

Comment: Request for photos is in progress.

5. Caller says that in the Spring of 1989, he saw a similar object, to that described by Valentich, moving very fast. This was while he was in Panama City, Florida. The caller is in the Air Force and knows nothing we have can move that fast. The sighting was also reported on radio.

Editors: Follow-up is pending.

6. Caller ringing from New Mexico said that about the same time he saw a similar type object over the Haleakach Mountains and Maalala Bay, in the Hawaiian Islands. The sighting was documented in the Maue News.

VUFORS will contact the observer soon for personal interview.

7. Caller says he noticed something moving at a 45 degree angle towards where the sun is on the Manifold photos. He particularly wanted to point this out.

8. Caller wants to know why it is not mentioned that in the first pictures, there were green lights, but these were not mentioned, but in the last photo they were acknowledged.

Comment: In the documentary, all details were not mentioned concerning the photos.

9. Caller remembers that he saw a story on a program called ~One Step Beyond~, in the 1960's, which was very similar! A pilot went missing and was found over 1,000 miles away four days later, in the desert. He was in shock and died. The caller thought we might want to check the archives of that show, since the stories are so similar. The incident occurred in California.

Comment: We know of this incident and will leave it up to Unsolved Mysteries.

10. Caller says that on the before, (the Valentich encounter) he saw the same thing that was aired on the show. He was in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada at the time.

Comment: Many callers responded to this program and before this edition is published, those people who have responded, will have been interviewed or in the process of follow-up investigations.

ON THE UFO TRAIL

Paul Norman © 1994

Australians are now being swamped with an increasing number of UFO-related television shows. Sections of some programs are based on fact, some on nonsense.

VUFORS members who attend our public meetings recognize that a recent episode of X files was based on rumours flowing from Area 51, in Nevada, only time and place were altered.

Nearly all of these shows are ~Hollywoodized~, making efforts to sort out fact from fiction more difficult, especially for the general public. The shows are well saturated with mis-statements, contradictions, errors and fantasy.

continued

Producers and directors of these Hollywood programs, spend so much time in the world of make believe, that they are of little value at producing documentaries.

Close Encounters of the Third Kind was one such example. They had information of good documented cases, but tried to roll them into some sort of plot with the main UFO resembling all the neon signs in Las Vegas put together.

What investigator ever heard of a UFO observer digging up shrubs and dirt from his garden and throw them in through the window of his home to make a pyramid in his lounge? Those members who saw the film know what I mean.

Those who turn out these shows are not investigators; they go around picking the brains of researchers, promising appropriate credits and donations to non-profit organisations, which rarely materialize! They then proceed to thoroughly mix all the facts and figures and present them quite out of context to misinform and confuse the public.

We now have a newcomer to this field, in Australia: The Extraordinary, who make erroneous claims "for the first time" this, that, or the other, as well as other mistakes.

This is an amusing program for researchers who are acquainted with the facts and can recognize the deviation from the truth. The X File segment televised 14th April, concerning the cover-up of Crashed UFO's, mentioned the Gulf Breeze case and afterwards stated they contacted NICAP. NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena) became defunct 20 years before Gulf Breeze, and NICAP investigators never acted like the character shown in the film! NICAP was a respected organisation.

Film producers are not the only group guilty of this procedure. Newspapers and magazines are also well represented in dispersing deception. Recently, I read a magazine article concerning an ET Base or UFO City under Mount Shasta, in Northern California. Mount Shasta is near my favourite trout stream, where I spend a few days before returning to Australia. It is true, the place is fascinating and sightings are frequently reported there.

One of the most interesting cases reported to me was an object in the sky, resembling a large ferris wheel. Similar descriptions have been reported over the years. One such incident comes to mind of an extremely large ferris wheel seen in the sky over Ocean Grove, Victoria, on the same night Frederick Valentich disappeared on October 21, 1978. Mount Shasta and the nearby town are tourist attractions. However, there is a point where fact ends and fantasy begins.

A few years ago I met a man who insisted that he had visited this underground UFO city. He appeared to be very sincere. When I mentioned to him that no entrance had been found to this city, he replied; "Oh! but one must have a guide!" After a few questions concerning his guide, I learned the guide was a hypnotist!

Now, if one wants to live in fantasy under Mount Shasta, Area 51, Dolce, or on any planet or even aboard a space ship, the hypnotist can solve the problem. This does not mean that hypnosis has no value, it is used by police, the medical profession and other professions; but to plant suggestions into the mind of a subject is a different matter, and there is deception in this procedure, among many individuals.

The following article appeared first in the International Reporter, September/October, 1993 edition, ANN DRUFFEL, the Author, has rewritten some for our Austrian readership.

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"REMEMBER McDONALD"

by Ann Druffel

Recent references to the late Dr. James E. McDonald in books like Jacques Vallee's REVELATIONS prompt me to write this tribute to his memory. Most persons in the UFO research field know McDonald's name, but, in proportion to the hundreds of researchers/investigators now entering UFO research, there are not many still left in the field who knew and worked with him personally. Due to his early death in June 1971, at the age of 51, the field was deprived prematurely of a fearless and gifted fighter.

For five years, between 1966 and 1971, McDonald sought the truth about UFOs with boldness and perseverance. His rare combination of interdisciplinary scientific knowledge, his countless contributions to the field of atmospheric physics, and his numerous high-placed contacts in the Scientific Community, in the government, and the military permitted him to sound an heraldic call to those who might be able to "make a difference."

He investigated the best UFO reports on-site, including classic cases in Australia and New Zealand, was friend and colleague to many lay researchers, and spoke innumerable times before prestigious scientific and governmental groups. He was listened to with respect everywhere he went. His main purpose: to convince the Scientific establishment that UFOs were a serious problem and should be studied earnestly. If Jim McDonald had lived out a normal life span, the UFO field today would be very different from the chaos into which it has presently been tossed. At the very least, we would very likely be closer to solving the UFO question.

Although Vallee's FORBIDDEN SCIENCE: JOURNALS 1957-1969 (1) has, in a sense, re-introduced Dr. James McDonald to the field, for the most

part it presents him in rather negative terms. I wish to present another side, so that those readers who did not know McDonald but yet are curious about him might have a chance to see him as the fearless fighter he was.

The rather negative light which FORBIDDEN SCIENCE casts upon McDonald is probably due to the fact that McDonald repeatedly, and bluntly, challenged Dr. J. Allen Hynek on various issues, usually not publicly, but mainly in conversation and correspondence. Hynek was Vallee's mentor and friend. Perhaps Vallee—who has relentlessly pursued the truth of UFOs and whose work I thoroughly admire and applaud—did not fully understand McDonald's *modus operandi*, which was intense and, even for a scientist, incredibly thorough.

Allen Hynek, from 1948-1969, had been the official scientific consultant on Astronomy to Project Bluebook, and in this capacity had been instrumental in passing off hundreds of good UFO reports as stars, meteors, balloons, etc. Once McDonald had become convinced of Hynek's true role as Bluebook consultant, he charged him with contributing to the U.S. government's delinquency on the UFO problem, and of concealing the true extent of this serious scientific problem from the scientific community. The decades-long governmental neglect of UFOs, and of Hynek's role in that neglect (through 1968, at least) offended McDonald's sense of honesty and scientific expertise. The controversy between the two men lasted for the rest of McDonald's life although, in public, the two men managed to present a cordial appearance toward each other from about 1969 on.

James E. McDonald, Ph.D., was Senior Physicist at the Institute for Atmospheric Physics (I.A.P.) at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A. He was instrumental in founding the I. A. P. in 1954 but, disliking administrative duties, soon stepped down so he could pursue research projects fulltime. He was also a professor of meteorology at that University, having helped create that department from its beginnings. He was noted for his brilliance as a teacher, for pioneering contributions to cloud physics and weather modification, and for his deep knowledge of adjoining fields of science. His mind was endlessly inquisitive; he made adventurous forays into any subject which happened to capture his interest, such as the physics of baseball and tennis and the shape of raindrops.

He also spoke out vigorously on more serious subjects, such as the insanity of ringing American cities with anti-ballistic missiles. His all-out attack on this problem in the early sixties' finally convinced the Air Force that placing defensive missile siloes *downwind* would at least prevent mass civilian deaths due to radioactive fallout in the event of a nuclear war. He also spoke out boldly against the war in Vietnam and especially against the use of napalm and other chemical weapons which caused many civilian deaths.

McDonald was, above all, that type of rare scientist who was acutely aware of the public's right to know. For him, Science existed to serve the public, not to live in ivory towers. This philosophy prompted him to write prolifically on numerous scientific questions, not only in highly technical, refereed journals, but also in semi-technical articles which any educated person could read and understand. He also contributed clearly-written articles—often tinged with humor—on scientific subjects in popular magazines. No matter in what media he wrote, his writing style was clear and fluid; his command of the English language and grammar rivalled any writer's. His vocabulary was limited only by what was between the covers of the dictionary. Every project he tackled, including the UFO question, was approached from the basis of the public good. He was truly a layman's scientist.

McDonald's last contribution to the field of atmospheric physics, in March 1971, was his logical but impassioned argument, at a public Congressional hearing, against government funding for fleets of supersonic transports (SSTs), which at the time were being proposed to phase out conventional airliners. He had studied the problem carefully and had concluded that fleets of SSTs, overflying the American continent, would weaken the fragile ozone layer and cause thousands of additional cases of skin cancer each year. He was one of the very few scientists to speak out in the early 1970s about problems in the ozone layer, and his prediction of increasing skin cancer rates has already come to pass.

McDonald, as described by Vallee, had seemed "to burst upon the UFO scene" in June 1966. Actually, his entrance into the field was far from sudden. Between the years 1958-1965, he quietly made a private study of Arizona UFO reports. He became known to local Arizonans as an eminently

approachable, courteous professional who did not laugh at their UFO reports but, instead, doggedly studied each case which came to his attention. This was done in his spare time, aside from his professional duties. He found conventional answers to most reports, as all good researchers do. Those he could not explain puzzled him deeply, until he came to realize that mystifying cases were occurring worldwide.

He served as a scientific consultant to NICAP before he ever spoke out publicly on the subject, because he was impressed with the scientifically-oriented approach which Donald E. Keyhoe, Richard Hall, Ted Bloecher, Gordon Lore and the rest of the NICAP staff and its nationwide Subcommittees brought to the problem. He was the first eminent scientist to work closely with objective civilian research organizations in a common goal. He was a family man with six teenage children. In spite of his personal responsibilities, however, after becoming convinced that UFOs did, indeed, present a serious scientific problem, he publicly went on a limb, disregarding the professional and financial risks involved.

McDonald's nature was intense, and he spoke out bluntly whenever he felt the situation called for it. It was these characteristics that Dr. Hynek felt so keenly. However, with his friends and family, McDonald was a charming and congenial man with a unique, sometimes impish, sense of humor.

Numerous colleagues in Physics and related branches of Science, as well as lay UFO researchers, appreciated McDonald's untiring efforts to break down military and governmental resistance to UFO research. It was during the McDonald years—1966-1971—that many scientists for the first time joined in the effort to make the subject of UFOs an "acceptable" field of study. But few could keep up with him. McDonald lived fast. His speech and movements were often hurried, as if the physical were laboring to keep up with his remarkable, racing mind. He had an encyclopedic memory, and could pull out the details of any one of the hundreds of cases he had worked on at a moment's notice.

I knew Jim McDonald personally because of my association with the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee (LANS), which was headed by Dr. Leslie K. Kaeburn and Idabel Epperson. The Committee's lively meetings at the Epperson home included virtually every scientist in the Southern California area who dared show interest in the subject. McDonald visited Los Angeles

from time to time, stopping over whenever he could in his incessant travels, and a meeting was always planned at such opportunities so ufologists and scientists in the area could exchange information and ideas with him.

He became a friend to many UFO investigators and scientists in the L. A. area and showed deep interest in many cases which were investigated and documented in Southern California, such as the Heflin photo case—on which LANS conducted a six-year investigation—the Yorba Linda photo (2), the Redlands case which was bird-dogged by a team from the University of Redlands, and multiple sightings at the Naval Weapons Center at China Lake, California. He was also intrigued by an early case of "missing time"—associated with UFO-type phenomena—which was experienced in the late '60s by a civilian who lived on the perimeter of China Lake. His interest in good cases from all over the U.S. and in foreign countries was unlimited, and his personal investigations were limited only by the boundaries of his time, energy and funding. He was the first—and perhaps the last—scientist who was permitted to use government funding partially for UFO research.

From about 1968 to 1970 he seemed on the verge of convincing the scientific community that UFOs were a serious problem which must be studied worldwide. However, through the politicking of Philip Klass, his Office of Naval Research (ONR) funding was taken from him after a 1967 trip to Australia and New Zealand. The U. S. government concluded that he was attacking the U.S. Air Force on foreign soil (3)! McDonald continued undaunted on a small NASA grant and private funds. He gave numerous papers at prestigious scientific conferences where the subject of UFOs had formerly been a laughable or forbidden subject. He was quoted often in the media, TV, radio and press.

He was welcomed everywhere he went, shoving admiration and awe aside, for that was not what he was seeking. What he sought was the Truth, and he listened carefully to anyone with competence in any professional field who had proper objectivity and the ability to research UFO reports competently. He wrote many privately-published papers on his own investigations and disseminated these widely to all who asked, whether layman, scientist, military or government official. He also wrote several articles in research journals such as *FSR* and at least two on the subject of UFOs in scientific journals.

Some of the scientists who worked with him did so subrosa, for many faced loss of governmental grants, or loss of their jobs in government-funded aerospace corporations. Others simply were fearful of peer pressure, or of lack of credibility for publicly displaying interest in UFOs. There were exceptions, of course, like Dave Saunders, Norm Levine and Leslie Kaeburn.

In contrast to experts like Donald E. Keyhoe and others in NICAP who, even in the early days of ufology, ascribed to the theory that government was deliberately covering up data, McDonald, at least publicly, never seemed convinced of this. He explained the U. S. government's incredible neglect of the UFO question as a "grand foulup" or bureaucratic bungling, even when he was denied access to dozens of classified radar-visual UFO cases in Bluebook files. After Dr. Edward Condon finished his hatchet job (4) and the Air Force gave up its public UFO query, these Radar-Visual files were finally declassified, and McDonald promptly copied them all.

These R-V cases occupied a considerable amount of time toward the end of his life. He was of the opinion that, if properly analyzed by competent experts, they might provide valuable data, because radar-visual cases, up to that point in time, constituted the closest thing to empirical evidence that seemed possible to obtain. To McDonald's mind, R-V cases could provide physical evidence—i. e., documented proof—that unidentified, metallic aeroforms from unknown sources (UFOs) existed and were invading earth's atmosphere.

McDonald's death, to most people in the UFO field, was a mystery. This intrepid and apparently tireless man died by his own hand on 12 June 1971, at the height of his unprecedented success. Suspicions of governmental conspiracy abounded in the UFO field; many were convinced, at first, that he had been silenced deliberately (5). His loss took a terrible toll. Besides the inestimable loss to his family and to Science in general, the UFO research field lost its leader and champion. Gone were his numerous contacts in science, government and the military. Gone was his persuasive voice and his unyielding search for empirical evidence and scientific proof.

Although more scientists began to show open interest and to work publicly in the UFO field after McDonald's death, it was never the same. We struggled on without him, never having a chance to properly mourn him, for none of us at the time fully understood why he died.

Not many months after McDonald's death, missing time and abduction reports began to flood in, overwhelming UFO investigators still devastated by his death. By 1973, the tenor of the field had subtly changed. No longer were unexplained *physical* objects the main focus; now "abduction" cases became dominant, at least in the United States, presenting themselves to a still-stunned field. We do not know why these close encounters—eventually termed CE IVs—took over the U. S. research field at that particular time; most of us accepted them merely as "a new phase". It is impossible not to wonder what McDonald would have done about the plethora of such cases, which gradually increased until by the 1980s they were a virtual flood which could no longer be adequately investigated by available investigators.

As a consequence, a situation similar to the 1950s—the age of the contactees which McDonald effectively fought—faces us in the U. S. today, and the "abductee" problem is spreading to other countries as well. "Contactee" stories, it is true, were different in content from present-day abduction stories, but in the fifties' and sixties' they presented an overwhelming problem to the small number of objective, scientifically-oriented researchers who were active at that time.

Now, contactee stories are practically extinct, but claims of alien implants, hybridization, genetic experimentation, missing fetuses, underground alien bases, secret cooperation of the U.S. military with aliens, etc., run rampant. No solid, empirical evidence has yet been found to substantiate any of these reports, just as no proof was ever found for the oldtime contactee ravings. But there is a terrible difference. Today, claims of alien implants, missing fetuses, etc. are accepted wholesale in the U. S. without positive proof, even by some prominent UFO researchers. To my mind, the situation is even more serious than the contactee problem which McDonald and his colleagues faced in the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s.

The field has never been the same since McDonald left us. It lacks the piercing objectivity he brought to it. The search for documented proof drove McDonald. It constituted the main force behind his appeals for adequate governmental funding and proper attention to the subject by the Scientific community. His hope was that Science, government, and the public would participate together in a nationwide—and if possible international—tracking, monitoring and documenting network, somewhat similar to the U.S.

Weather Service. By such means, McDonald reasoned, the existence of UFOs, as physical craft of unknown origin, could be proven beyond the shadow of a doubt. After the proof of existence was established, the more theoretical problems of their nature, purposes, occupants, etc. could be explored, for then the full force of scientific curiosity would be brought against them.

What might have happened if McDonald had lived out a normal lifespan? Would the scientific community have continued the steps they were taking, openly discussing UFOs at scientific conferences and symposia? Would the scientific community—hand-in-hand with objective lay investigators—have been able to start a general public demand that *all* UFO classified information in government possession be made freely available?

Is there another "James McDonald" somewhere out there, ready to take up the cudgel? Is it too much to hope that another, with the unique combination of knowledge, energy, enthusiasm, and the personal talents of mind and heart which he possessed, lives among us?

McDonald's curiosity extended beyond the physical puzzle UFOs presented. He was interested in early abduction cases such as Betty and Barney Hill's. Time-loss cases, which were just beginning to surface, likewise intrigued him. He preferred, however, to leave public comment on such data to psychologists, for he felt that such cases had psychological implications which he was not qualified to properly assess. By their very nature, apparently occurring in altered states of consciousness, it is possible that these incidents involve events beyond the monitoring capacity of physical science. James McDonald would have pointed this out and concentrated on proving the physical reality of the craft-like objects themselves.

The UFO research field today no longer demands competent investigation or scientific evidence. In large part, it consists of anecdotal data obtained through the dicey means of hypnotic regression. The attempts of a few researchers to prove claims of "missing fetuses" have met with no success. The few "alien implants" which have been recovered turned out to have conventional explanations. Claims of "underground bases staffed by alien-military compatriots" exist in a shadow world. We struggle through a morass of ever-increasing complexity.

McDonald has never been replaced, and perhaps never will be. The least we can do is this: *It is time to return to the scientific approach McDonald*

took, to seek incontrovertible proof that unidentified, metallic aeroforms are invading earth's atmosphere. This is a provable fact, if enough hard data can be gleaned from radar-visual cases, from satellite monitoring systems and the like. It was data like these that McDonald sought, and succeeded at least partially in finding. He also left us the basic *concept* by how adequate data could be obtained.

McDonald's voluminous UFO files remained virtually intact, carefully guarded by his family; only a very few researchers have been permitted access to them since 1971. I have been given access to these files and to private journals, constituting hundreds of handwritten pages, which he wrote between 1966-1971. The existence of these journals was unknown before, and for the past fifteen months I have been transcribing them, as well as studying his files and interviewing scientists and veteran UFO researchers who worked closely with him. Previously-unknown information about McDonald's contributions to the UFO field, and clarification of the last months of his life, and his death, will be the subject of a book—working title, AFRAID OF NOTHING: UFOs AND THE DEATH OF A MAVERICK SCIENTIST—which will be finished within a year.

REFERENCES & FOOTNOTES

- (1) Vallee, Jacques, *FORBIDDEN SCIENCE: JOURNALS 1957-1969*, Berkeley, CA, U.S.A., North Atlantic Books, 1992.
- (2) Druffel, Ann, "The Yorba Linda Photograph", FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (FSR), London, Special Issue #5, Nov. 1973.
- (3) Norman, Paul, "On the UFO Trail", THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, December 1993. This article reveals some personal enlightenment which Norman gathered on the problem from Phil Klass in 1993.
- (4) SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS, Dr. Edward U. Condon, Scientific Director, Daniel S. Gillmor, Editor, with an introduction by Walter Sullivan, New York, Bantam Books 1968.
- (5) Although my research over the past 15 months indicates that McDonald's suicide was the result of a deep depressive state, there is considerable evidence that this depression was brought on, and deepened, by a series of events which were carefully orchestrated by governmental sources.

Should I be asked to write about my thirty-five years in UFO work, I'd rather chat about some of the characters I've met in this field, and about the changing attitude to UFOs over the years; I wouldn't even mention a single nocturnal light, or computerised statistic. For, next to the UFO events themselves, it is people and their attitudes that shape the present and future of our subject.

You would of course be entitled to know from the outset what my own attitude is to UFOs. Well, to me they are physically normal vehicles from "offshore" civilisations. And to embrace like thinkers even more, while sending others into a scientific (or theological?) flap, or intellectual tizz, I would add that these other civilisations are peopled by humans like us, and that many reported "grays" and "monsters" are androids made and controlled by humans like us; their motives may differ from ours, but we are dealing with others of like image. That's what I'd make quite clear if I were asked to write about UFOs.

Of course the main influence in all this - more than the UFO events and people's attitude towards them - is the official secrecy; we need not labour this point, the evidence is there: see Keyhoe's books, Professor James E. McDonald's papers, and Timothy Good's, *Above Top Secret*.

The result of official secrecy is mystification. One only has to give a scenario of people living in a simple village near an active volcano, people who have no knowledge of vulcanology. They would listen to their elders, accepting the volcano when active to be an angry god in need of appeasement. But today we know that volcanoes are only a normal part of nature.

I remember the only time I met George Adamski's secretary for many years, Lucy McGinnis (This was ten years after Adamski died, when she was in a retirement village; a true lady, if ever there was one. And she reaffirmed witnessing Adamski's contact as recorded in *Flying Saucers Have Landed*). At the end of our meeting over lunch, Lucy McGinnis made the point that our big task about people from other planets is to normalise them. I agree. UFOs have to be demystified, and a grain of salt always carried in the palm of the hand for those UFO stories that border on the supernatural, stories always ready to fill the gap created by the official silence.

It was in fact a request to be silent that got me into UFO research. One day in the country, in the early 1950s, a friend and I heard a sound as if an old aeroplane, its engine dead, were diving, corkscrewing, silently except for the sound of the wind through wire struts. We looked straight up, but saw nothing. A second friend, some distance away, heard the same sound but he looked south. He saw three objects, not high, flying away in V-formation, changing positions within the V-shape as they flew. This sighting was eventually reported along much of the eastern seaboard of Australia. When I rang the RAAF about it, they asked me not to tell the press, thereby raising my interest in the subject for ever.

While I was the public relations officer for UFO Research (Queensland), and later its president, I met interesting persons. Adamski was the first. (The Queensland group invited Adamski to lecture-tour Australia, and this grew into his world tour in 1959, organised from Brisbane, helped by the very able organising abilities of the secretary, Gordon Jamieson.)

I once described George Adamski as being a jar of different content to its label. In those years, having read his books, many expected to see a man in a white robe, one arm held high, giving some cosmic finger sign that followers would instantly recognise. Instead, they got in Adamski a down-to-earth character in a grey business suit, who smoked, drank vodka concoctions, told jokes, talked world affairs and all about the latest scientific discoveries. He spoke always against the psychic intrusion into the saucer field. He warned against it. Urged UFO investigators to deal more with the objective scientific angles, giving in his lectures information about the then new space program called NASA, formed the year before in 1958.

For many UFO researchers in the 1950s, Adamski laid down safe rails to proceed on. One has to remember the attitudes back then. Some scientists were theorising how UFOs could be piloted by giant insects. Others, by what is called channelling today, were giving forth messages from "ethereal pilots" of UFOs. Adamski's call to study NASA and normal space craft was a blessing. While he continually threw down the challenge to orthodoxy: "I have met a man from another planet. He looked like you and me. He bled when wounded. He was real. He went away in a craft we call a flying saucer."

During Adamski's world tour of 1959, the Reverend William Booth Gill, and thirty-eight witnesses, saw human figures on board craft in New Guinea. When Gill returned to Australia for the first time after these sightings, the boat stopped over in Brisbane. The press and a few of us boarded down river with the pilot. Immediately the press urged Gill to tell again about the people on the saucers. But Gill then did an intelligent thing: he produced a typed statement from his pocket, saying that he'd already prepared a report and perhaps they'd care to read it for themselves. On such a sensitive issue as claiming to have seen men on board a UFO, any casual retelling to tongue-in-cheek reporters could have been disastrous. Gill remains the perfect witness: all the facts he could muster, but without opinion or hint of personal attitude.

The overseas investigator who had our complete trust and respect was Professor James E. McDonald. He was a gentleman with a no-nonsense, efficient character. And friendly - there is a technique to asking many questions on the phone without seeming rude, and Jim McDonald had it. He came to our home for one day's work with the Queensland group in 1967, all the time refusing requests from the media for an interview until he was due to leave the airport, when he gave that now well-known interview of some 12 minutes to Channel 7; this tape is held by UFO Research (Qld).

James McDonald challenged the official stance on UFOs, later condemning the Condon Report, and Dr Hynek for his role as an advisor about UFOs for the American airforce. He made enemies. He lectured American scientists about the reality of UFOs as possible space craft from other planets unknown. Less than four years after our meeting, he was dead. In my opinion, the known circumstances of his death, reported as a suicide, leave some questions unanswered.

Another overseas visitor I would mention if I were to write about my UFO work, is Dr J. Allen Hynek. He and his 3-D camera made good company. Affable and officially correct, I often sensed a guardedness about him. Over the years, Hynek proved a

Continued

It's looking up for Rachel, Nev.

Stop in for a cup and (flying) saucer

By Tom Simmons
Self Writer of The Dallas Morning News

"Pretwhealing" can lead right out of this world. We had driven "The Loneliest Road in America," U.S. Highway 50 from Ely, Nev., in the east to Fernley, Nev., in the west and survived to tell about it (in Travel Nov. 22).

Now we had to get back east a different way, and there were few choices. We skirted the Monte Cristo Range to Tonopah, then to Warm Springs. From there, State 375 winds southeast and, 100 empty miles later, winds up at Ash Springs. Loneliest Road, you've met your match. Not a person, not an animal, not a structure, not a billboard.

But wait. Two-thirds of the way along a corrugated metal building with a pickup alongside hardly had eye appeal, but it was high noon and hunger prevailed.

The town sight

Over humpbacked hamburgers we heard the waitress talk about UFOs and the people who come to this forsaken spot from the world over in hope of seeing a flying saucer. Skeptics can enjoy the food, have a beer and play draw poker on the slot machine. We were the only customers. A modest highway sign said "Rachel," but this was Rachel — all of it.

An idle look at the guest book showed exotic homesteaders spanning the globe. Then, what's the name of this bar and grill? LITTLE A'LE'INN. And who patronizes it? Not aliens, but a few ranch hands plus hundreds who come in chartered buses, auto caravans, RVs, looking for something from another world.

The souvenir section of the little canteen is distinctly UFO-oriented, from pencils to pictures. We asked the waitress for more.

Yes, she said matter-of-factly, UFO-watchers meet nearly every night by the mailbox. That's the only mailbox, and it's 18 miles south of Rachel. And what do they see? Lights, flying craft — as many as five at a time. Nellis Air Force Base is over the mountain, but these aren't earthly planes. Visitors focus their binoculars, try for pictures and take their stories back home.

Some have pitched their tents sometimes they huddle until dawn in subfreezing weather. Little A'Le'Inn itself has motel rooms (trailer houses) with shared bath for \$25 and \$30 a night.

A close encounter

Five years ago Pat Travis, a cook in Las Vegas, would go on weekends to meet her husband, Joe, a carpenter in Tonopah, at the halfway spot, the Rachel Bar and Grill. Its owner was ready to go out of business. Pat talked a reluctant Joe into taking it over; they enlarged and re-

modeled it and spruced it up. Then word got around that there were sightings. The story made the local radio stations, got into UFO publications.

Business was so good that Pat and Joe opened the modest motel and provided RV hookups. They were pleased at the lure that brought business, so they coined Little A'Le'Inn.

Their own conversion — if they were the least bit skeptical — came in 1990.

"Joe and I were in the bar alone about 8:30 that night," Pat recalled. He's 53, she's a no-nonsense 49. "It was 20 below. Snow was piled high, and nothing was moving.

"Then, through the center of the back door — it's a steel-sheathed door — an intense beam of light illuminated the room. Our hair felt like it was standing up on the back of our heads. We looked at each other, and the light faded away in a few seconds.

"That light couldn't have come from outside — nothing was there. It sure didn't come from inside."

To some, Nellis Air Base is the prime suspect. Super-secret planes such as Stealth are based and tested there, zooming through the night. To others, Nellis is the answer. It's supposed to keep under wraps alien spacecraft flown from distant alien systems. They're hidden in hangars deep inside a mountain and flown over a vast swath of closed-off desert, usually on Wednesday night (prime-time viewing night for the faithful).

Eric Schine, aerospace writer for *Business Week* — surely a factual skeptical observer — made the pilgrimage in 1991, taking a beach chair, prepared to scoff.

A fellow watcher shouts, "I see one!" Writes Mr. Schine: "And there it is, a tiny dot of reddish light hovering above a mountain peak. First it grows steadily brighter, then darts back and forth, and finally fades in a grand swoop to the west. The whole affair lasts a good two minutes, and everyone seems immensely satisfied. There are bets on the back and hugs all around. And for me, a special round of congratulations. They say I have just had my first encounter with an H-PAC. And lucky I am, too, since not everyone sees an H-PAC his first time out. 'A what?' I ask. 'A human-piloted alien craft. You know. A flying saucer.'"

Alas, we could not spend the night; Bryce Canyon National Park was beckoning. It would have been nice to try for the scoop of the century, an interview with a little green person.

Have You Seen A Press Cutting That VUFORS May Be Interested In? Please Send It To Us We Rely On You, The Membership

Most reports of UFOs seemed to spring from hoaxes, but there remained a few inexplicable sightings which had to be regarded as unidentified flying objects.

Mr Regge said he expected his report to go forward for discussion at a plenary session of the parliament. "It will be subject to a lot of flak," he said.

Mr Ford tried to have the report thrown out, but the chairman refused. "It makes it very difficult for people to take the parliament seriously when committees waste time like this," he added.

Press Cuttings Of Interest

Fireball flash startles truckie

By JEREMY WILSHIRE

A SPECTACULAR fireball over the Nullarbor gave a Perth truck driver the trip of a lifetime this week.

While travelling from Port Augusta to Perth at 2.50am Thursday, Ernie Jesnoewski and a friend saw an intriguing phenomenon.

About 120km from Norseman, the men saw behind them a light, which drew alongside to within about 500m.

Mr Jesnoewski said: "It was so big, so quick and so bright — we didn't give much thought to anything. It skipped 20m above the trees and stayed alongside for about 20 seconds."

"It was a bright, iridescent green and there were brilliant gold and white flames. The tail was about 25m long.

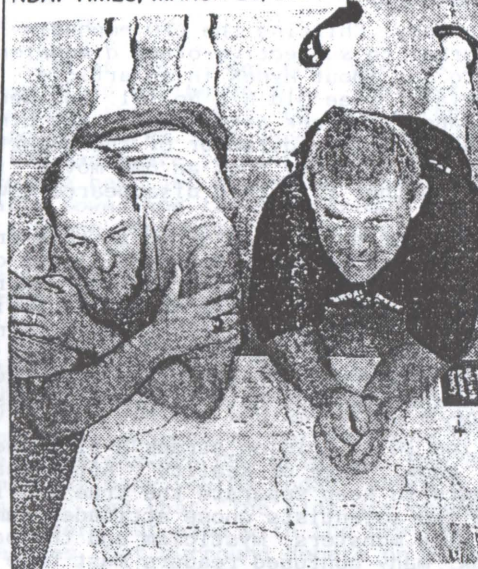
"Then it disappeared. I'm sure it hit the ground. It didn't go to the right or left or upwards, it went down and out."

The WA Museum curator of meteorites, Dr Alex Bevan, gave his interpretation of the spectacular event during the week.

"The best explanation I can give is that it could have been a big fireball skipping along the outer atmosphere at a low angle of trajectory to the earth's surface," he said.

"Nearly all the fireballs we see actually extinguish 10km to 30km above the surface of the earth. What he might have seen was the fireball crossing his nearest horizon."

NDAY TIMES, MARCH 20, 1994



Ernie Jesnoewski, right, and David Richardson pinpoint the site of the fireball.

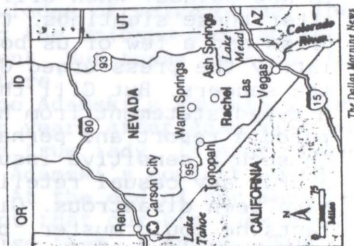
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The Dallas Morning News

The Dallas Morning News: Tom Simmons

food, have a drink, play the slot machine and scan the souvenirs. Die-hards pitch a tent or rent a trailer for the night.

People the world over come to this corrugated-metal cafe in the Nevada desert hoping to see a UFO. Skeptics can enjoy the

UFOs drive a wedge between European socialists

John Carvel in Brussels

PROPOSALS for a European centre to analyse sightings of unidentified flying objects provoked a row among scientist members of the European Parliament in Brussels yesterday.

Tullio Regge, an Italian socialist MEP and eminent physicist, produced a report for the energy, research and technology committee calling for a central office of information on UFOs.

After interviewing airline pilots and corresponding with the air forces of all member states, he said he did not personally believe in little green men in spacecraft. But plenty of people did.

An EC observation centre, like that at Toulouse in France, could help control the flood of rumours after reports of sightings. And it could have "an invaluable role in exploring the existence and nature of rare meteorological phenomena".

Glyn Ford, leader of the Labour MEPs and a former senior research fellow at Manchester University, described his fellow socialist's idea as "crackpot".

Mr Regge's report was commissioned by the co-ordinators of the political groups in 1991. "Sightings [of UFOs] are customarily thought to be due to the presence of aliens or visitors from other planets," he said. However, recent space exploration appeared to have found no evidence of a planetary civilisation and the distances involved in interstellar travel posed immense difficulties.

Most reports of UFOs seemed to spring from hoaxes, but there remained a few inexplicable sightings which had to be regarded as unidentified flying objects.

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GUARDIAN, London, England - Feb. 17, 1993

Continued from Page 15

disappointment to many. Shifting the UFO emphasis from *solid-interplanetary-normal* to *subjective-other dimensional-odd*. I've said all I want to say about Hynek in an article, "Hynek Versus the Extraterrestrials" (See Qld N/L No.101, Nov-Dec 1982).

While in Brisbane, Dr Hynek asked me to take him to see Tom Drury. In 1953, while deputy director of the Department of Civil Aviation, New Guinea, Mr Drury took an 8mm movie film of a UFO at Port Moresby - another film that disappeared down the official sink.

Being anxious to correct an old error in this Drury report, I'd brought with me a rewrite (by Colin Phillips) of his sighting. What Drury filmed was always depicted by Edgar Jarrold, who claimed he was secretly shown the Drury film at the Victoria Barracks, Melbourne in 1954, as a UFO making right-angle turns. What Drury actually saw was a UFO in straight flight. I asked him to read our rewrite giving the UFO a straight-line path. He read it, hit the page with his knuckles and said to Hynek, "This is correct, this is what I saw."

Hynek and Vallee in my opinion struck a blow against UFOs by publishing their book, "Edge of Reality". After years of work by many researchers to keep separate the true UFO from the psychic chaff, here were two scientists whose attitudes dumped the subject back in the bin with monsters, mysticism and the paranormal. After reading this book, many confused readers must have abandoned the subject to follow more tangible pursuits.

In the official silence since the 1940s, speculation still fills the UFO literature, and with the exception of Timothy Good's books today very little is written about UFOs as normal space craft - let alone taking the logical attitude that these craft will eventually affect our status quo. The official silence, a very effective censorship, is still winning.

Another subject with the potential to upset the status quo is nanotechnology. And if I were asked to write about UFOs today, I would certainly say that this new subject has fascinating links with UFOs.

This new area of science, writes one MIT Technical Review, will "be able to analyze and construct nearly anything, atomic layer by atomic layer [...]. The human benefits from this technology will be without limit." The recommendable book on nanotechnology is *Engines of Creation*, by K. Eric Drexler. All the theories are in place and, with a little bit of serendipity, scientists will make, say, a rocket engine in one piece - no joins, no rivets. Are we catching up with UFO "offshore" technology? Do we hear bells ringing? Many UFO witnesses say that the craft didn't appear to have any joins or rivets in its construction, as if moulded in one piece. That's what nanotechnology will do: make near-perfect machinery in one piece; and also seamless clothing - another observation made by Adamski and other close-encounter witnesses.

Now, by strange coincidence, the man in charge of the MJ-12 group, Dr Vannevar Bush, also had early links with nanotechnology. If we accept the MJ-12 papers, then Bush would have had in the 1940s early information, if not hands-on knowledge of crashed saucers. And in an article, "Tiny Machines ..." in the Sydney Morning Herald (6 June 1991) it says, "The idea of [building] molecular machines [read nanotechnology machines] is not new [...], their virtually unlimited potential [was] first discussed in the 1940s by Dr Richard Feynman and later by Dr Vannevar Bush, both physicists."

Are these associations important? I think they are. In a recent article sent to the Foresight Institute about UFOs and nanotechnology, I opened with,

Let it be said at the outset that when we read the acronym UFO (Unidentified Flying Object), the best reason to remove the tongue from the cheek is to equate these craft with a superior power source, and superior transport systems. Nations all the time manoeuvre to control oil supplies, spend billions to produce the best jet planes and atomic-powered submarines - and that's *power* and *transportation*. And that is what UFOs represent; hence the official secrecy.

This is the hard-nosed reality of UFOs, the reason for official silence. UFO censorship (See Timothy Good's, *Above Top Secret*) is classified two points above the H-bomb, "the most highly classified subject in the US Government at the present time."

Exploring around the edges of our subject, we continue to find interesting connections and attitudes. In the British *Vogue* magazine (May, 1993) the ethical and spiritual side of UFOs is discussed - not by UFO researchers, but by young British fashion designers! Their designs are UFO-oriented. One designer, Nick Phillip, claims that many youths today "share a deep distrust of governments ..." and that "The kids are obsessed not only with flying saucer imagery but also with the bewildering number of conspiracy theories that surround debate on aliens."

Are we getting the drift? There are young bloods out there who are onto this subject. Their attitudes, straight out of *Vogue*, would have to be included in anything I write about UFOs.

"Something's bubbling up in the collective unconscious", ventures this young clothes designer. "If there is life on other planets," says Nick Phillip, "there are a lot of paradigms and world views that are going to be seriously reconsidered."

During my thirty-five years in the UFO field, these craft have always been seen not only as interplanetary vehicles, but also as cosmic stirrers whose societies present us with ethical paradigms, and whose pilots could have personal attitudes of a universal nature quite beyond our own.

One other quote is made by our uforite in *Vogue*. And I reckon I twig what he means. "UFO consciousness," he says, "is fast becoming a sign of cool for the hippest youth."

Yes, if ever I write about my UFO world, I'll want to include that one. It gives great expectations.

...

(Roy Russell, born 1921, joined UFO Research (Qld) when it was called Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau on 11 December, 1957. He resigned on 5 November, 1991.)



— WAS DARWIN ONLY HALF CORRECT? —

The suggestion that our earliest civilization dating back almost 6,000 years, knew more about aspects of science than we do today is difficult for us to accept. Our experience shows clearly how much we have developed in the past 300 years, that to consider a technological stage 3,000 years ago, let alone 6,000 years, allows us only to think of very primitive levels. But what if they did know more, and for some reason that knowledge was either lost or destroyed amongst warring nations. Excavations in the lost biblical city of Nineveh in 1875, unearthed a vast library of many thousands of documentations, most of which dated back to the Sumerian civilization nearly 6,000 years ago. Of that documentation the number 195,955,200,000,000 was discovered. For over 100 years this number baffled scientists, until a NASA engineer named Maurice Chatelain, recalled how he got the shock of his life when he realized that the number equals 240 cycles of the precession of the equinoxes. Since the Earth bulges at the equator and is not a perfect sphere, an imbalance is created which causes it to wobble slightly as it rotates. This wobbling is accentuated by gravitational pull from the Sun and the Moon, which cause the axis points at the poles to rotate about a small circle. It takes the Earth, some 25,800 years to complete one full movement about this circle, and 240 of those, expressed in seconds, exactly equals the number that was first written down 6,000 years ago. But how did the Sumerians know that? Indeed how did they even know it was the world that moved, and not the sky about the world. A fact not fully appreciated by us until Galileo reinforced Copernicus's theories, that it was the planets that revolved about the Sun, in the 16th Century. The Sumerian knowledge of cosmology, or the working of the universe, was well beyond any level we have today reached. Not only did they know of, but they exactly described the planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto with their associated orbits and peculiarities. Yet all of these planets are invisible to the naked eye, and were not discovered by us until 1781, 1846 and 1930 respectively, as our technology advanced. Zecharia Sitchin is an archaeologist and biblical scholar, who has studied ancient civilizations, and in particular that of Sumer, for over 40 years. Based on that research he was able to publish a book in 1976, from which, amongst a great deal of other information relying purely on Sumerian records, he described the planet Neptune as being made of blue coloured water, beset with patches of green swamp like vegetation. Today's astronomers have always insisted that Neptune and all the other planets of our outer solar system, were composed of pure gas. Even with our best telescopes, Neptune over 3 billion miles away, is a very small dot. Mr Sitchin's writings were not accepted by the establishment, until in 1986 and 1989, the Voyager 2 satellite sent the first photographs back to Earth of first Uranus and then Neptune. Not only were Mr Sitchin's writings confirmed, but every other detail of which he had written has since not been disproved, but more often supported. The Sumerians base their incredible knowledge on the information given to them by a race of people who first came to Earth 445,000 years ago, from a planet we now know to exist. The Sumerian's tale of creation, follow Darwin's theory of evolution from a single self-replicating cell to the development of a primitive man called Homo erectus who first appeared some 1.5 million years ago.

the sudden and enormous leap in the achievements of the successors to Homo erectus. Homo sapiens first appeared 300,000 years ago with very little relation to the earlier Homo erectus. Not only were their technical achievements far superior, but for the first time man could speak a language. They expressed themselves by paintings, had a social structure that cared for its sick, and most significantly they had religion. They knew they were going to die, and they created burial mounds where they equipped their dead for the after life. The Sumerians explained this in very specific documents, as the genetic upgrading between the ape-people (Homo erectus) and the people who came from the heavens.

In lay terms they were called gods, although their real name was the Anunnaki. In our bible they are referred to as the Nefilim, and they imparted into their new man, not just compassion and learning but also a spirit.

It was from here that our bible takes over, or rather the original script from which our bible is merely the final edition of a long line of copies of the story of creation that was first written down 6,000 years ago. Each translation, enforcing its own language adaptations and slightly, but significantly differing from the original.

The bases of the Christian religion is of a one and single God, yet in the bible, Genesis 1:26 states: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." But the original Hebrew text from which the bible was based, refers not to a single God, for they use the word Elohim, which is the plural form, meaning Gods. Equally the original description is not of a single man, but a reference to the plural "men". And so, what is today "Man created by God", was in the original form "Men created by Gods".

The bible was copied from the Hebrew version, which was its-self copied from the Assyrians, who in turn copied it from the Babylonians. And it was the Babylonians who copied it from the Sumerians. A civilization that arose suddenly and seemingly from nowhere in a country we today call Iraq. Zecharia Sitchin has written six books on his work, which in paperback have sold over 10 million copies. These books now in beautifully bound hardback, as well as an exciting and incredible video film, relate not just what the Sumerians wrote of, but include NASA satellite photographs showing pyramids and a sphinx that were built on Mars 450,000 years ago. It offers hard proof that life existed on Mars then, and still does TODAY!

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UFO AFRINEWS



PING-PONG LIGHTS OVER BROMLEY. - Case N° 71 Bromley, Zimbabwe

Farmer M. Patterson (not his real name) of Bromley, a rural area not far from the capital of Zimbabwe, had an interesting story to tell about a moon that wasn't real, and some leaping ping-pong balls of light. In his own words, this is his experience:

'On the night of August 1st, 1992, I had gone to bed shortly after midnight but was unable to sleep because my dog was barking furiously outside and would not stop. Annoyed, I got up and went to the kitchen window to see what the noise was all about. The time by my bedside radio clock was 12:15.

I looked through the window, facing south, but could see nothing to account for the dog's excitement, except that he was looking up at the moon. Apart from the barking, it was very quiet and peaceful all around.

Seeing nothing except the very bright yellow moon above the bluegum and msasa trees, I went to the window of my workshop which faces east. From there I saw the dog still barking aggressively at the moon, and shouted to him to keep quiet. He stopped and went into his kennel.

But now it struck me that I could not be seeing the moon on the east side, so I went back to the kitchen window and looked out. Suddenly, I saw a small light, like a ping-pong ball, bouncing in the air, leaving a 'string' of light behind it as it danced; it was at about the height of the 'moon' and to my surprise, the ball merged and became one with it. This ball was coming from the north-west and as I looked at it, another one bounced across my field of vision from the north-east. Again, this bright yellowish ping-pong ball leaped and bounced along, leaving a trail of light as it moved. Again, it merged with the large ball I had thought was the moon.

I went back to the workshop window, then returned to the kitchen; from both windows I could see more of these balls coming from NE and NW, bouncing along leaving their strings of light behind them and disappearing into the larger sphere of light. There was no smell when I opened the windows, except the usual scents of the farm.

At one o'clock exactly, i.e. about half an hour after I first saw the phenomenon, the large ball of light began to move southwards, above the bluegum plantation, and soon it was hidden from view by the trees. 'It was very cold and I didn't feel like going outside, so I went back to bed and slept like a baby for the rest of the night.'

The next morning, Patterson went to look at his maize plants, to see if there was anything amiss, as he thought the object and the lights might have affected the corn; but all was as it should be.

He is still puzzled, after all this time, about what the large and small balls of light could have been.

COMMENTS:

The full moon was on the night of August 12/13th. Only a sliver of moon would have been visible on the 1st August.

There is a Brazilian Air Force Report on 'ping-pong ball' lights that has similarities with Patterson's sighting:

'On the 19th May, 1986, Brig. General Octavio Moreira Lima reported that 6 fighter jets of the Air Defence and Air Traffic Control Centre (CINDACTA) for Brazil, were scrambled after numerous radar blips were detected on the radar screens of Air Force Bases.

When Col. Osirus Silva, of Petrobras, was landing in his plane piloted by Alcir Pereira around 9 p.m. on 19th May, they were told that three unidentifieds had been spotted on their route. They were described as 'strong red lights... which changed their positions rapidly.'

The jets were immediately scrambled (10 p.m.) and visual contact was established. The pilots chased the lights and were, in turn, chased by them. One pilot, Capt. Freitas, had as many as 13 luminous 'ping-pong' type balls surrounding his Mirage 111. They were distributed in groups of 6 and 7 objects on each side of his plane. They followed Freitas at a distance of two miles.

UFO POTPOURRI

Credit: John F. Schuessler
P.O. Box 58485.
HOUSTON, TEXAS.
77258-8485. USA

February 1994

ASTRONAUT SPEAKS CANDIDLY ABOUT HIS SIGHTING

Guests on the NBC-TV show *TODAY* on Friday, April 12, 1974 talked to host Edwin Newman about UFOs. Participating were Congressman J. Edward Roush, Authors Ralph and Judy Blum, and Astronaut/Brigadier General James A. McDivitt. Ralph Blum told about the fall 1973 UFO flap and how Hunter Air Force Base, Savannah, GA., introduced the Hickson/Parker Pascagoula, MS abduction case. General McDivitt said he had talked with Charles Hickson and believe Hickson was telling the truth. When asked if there was any proof that the event actually happened, McDivitt said "I guess there's Charles Hickson." Congressman Roush discussed the 1968 Congressional hearings on UFOs. Judy Blum then related how British Air Marshall Borton, a family friend, had said "the British Air Ministry's files on UFOs were quite phenomenal." She then told about how Robert Gallego, the French Minister of Defense went on television and spoke about "police and military evidence which indicates that flying saucers are real, solid objects." After a commercial break, Edwin Newman questioned General McDivitt as follows:

NEWMAN: Ralph Blum said he thought we would never have any contact with extraterrestrial life, people from other planets. You didn't agree, Jim.

MCDIVITT: No. I think that they're really around, and I hope that someday - maybe not in this decade, or maybe not even in this century or the next century - but someday, I hope that we can communicate. We're not very smart as a group of people, you know. We've only been around a few thousand years, and earth is a few billion years old, so we've got a long way to go.

NEWMAN: What did you see, or what do you think you saw, when you were - was it Gemini 4?

MCDIVITT: Yes, Well I didn't see anything that looked like a spacecraft. It looked more like a - something like an upper stage of a rocket or something. It was a long, cylindrical object with a long pole sticking out. But it was a very precise object. It wasn't a.....

NEWMAN: Could it have been the upper stage of a rocket that we put up there?

MCDIVITT: I thought it was when I first saw it, but it turned out when we looked at the records that there weren't any upper stages or rockets anywhere near me. So, no, it could not have been. It wasn't a Russian one (emphatically). It wasn't any other country's because we know where they all are.

NEWMAN: Have you thought much about this - what this could be? I mean, you talk about life on other planets.

MCDIVITT: I didn't much at the time, but since then I've had an opportunity to philosophize a little more, and I really think that it would be naive for us to think that we're the only intelligent beings in the entire universe, when you take time to think how big the universe really is. So I think there are other intelligent beings someplace.

NEWMAN: An from what you know of, among other things, the space program, General McDivitt, do you think, if these other forms of life exist, then we will, within any predictable period, get into contact with them?

MCDIVITT: Not predictable, but I hope that eventually will happen.

Following that exchange, Edwin Newman went back to talking to Congressman Roush again, but Ralph Blum was anxious to say something. Edwin asked him if he wanted to say something.

Ralph Blum then said: "I wanted to back up and correct myself. I didn't say, or mean, that we'd never have contact. I say we may never have physical evidence, because I think something - we're having experience already, we're already having contact."

Judy Blum then talked about there being several types of flying saucers and posed a question about the possibility of much advanced propulsion systems.

General McDivitt then said: "Sure, Fantastic types of propulsion systems, and other things. I don't think we're really smart enough in the 1970s to really understand what's going to happen in 2300, or some other time like that, and these people could be way ahead of us."

Australian Sighting Reports .

On Wed. Jan. 12th. at approx. 10 p.m. we were driving along the Thoona/Benalla Rd. which skirts the shores of Lake Mokoan travelling in a southerly direction. As we are Wild Life Researchers we carry quite an array of night time equipment - Various types of spotlights from wide to narrow beams/both portable (12 v) 'porta pak' batteries right up to a penetration light rated at 750,000 Candle Power! We use a Zeiss (Janaflex) S L R camera with an equivalent Samsung Auto focusing AF 777i auto zoom still camera. One of our main recording devices is a LOW LIGHT G2 Panasonic VHS(c) Video Camera that records images DOWN TO ALMOST ONE LUX. We also carry sound equipment.

Approx. 2.5 Kms. from the Thoona/Taminick intersection we noticed a bright object above the lake. We had been spotlighting across the lake for approx. 15 mins. with the powerful 750K lamp (equiv. to a one aircraft landing lamp). At first we thought it was a helicopter due to the size of the light. HOWEVER WE COULD NOT DETECT ANY SOUND. There was a slight S.E. breeze blowing but the night appeared to be uncannily silent. I thought at the time that whatever it was may have been attracted to our lights and had come to investigate it.

At first it appeared motionless but appeared to move 2 to 3 degrees to the N.E. From horizon to Zenith I would place it at about 40° relevant to our position.

It stopped and A FLASH OR BEAM OF LIGHT SHOT FROM THE BASE OF THE OBJECT TO THE WATER LINE AND BACK TO THE OBJECT. It appeared to be very intense - almost bluish in appearance. This occurred so quickly that we are still not definite if the sequence was in fact reversed. It then moved N for 3 to 5 secs. and gained altitude to about 45°. The object now appeared to be twice the size AND ONCE AGAIN REPEATED THE "BEAMING SEQUENCE" with the water level of the lake. It then continued in a N. direction. (See map)

We turned the car around (my son was driving) and switched off the lights as we estimated that its trajectory would take it straight across the Thoona Rd. at the corner of the lake near the bird sanctuary and protected wetlands area. As we drove back to the intersection we lost sight of the object. As we rounded the intersection at the corner on the way back to Taminick (Now heading approx. S.) we noticed lights(?) "on" the road travelling behind us. At first we thought it was a car on high beam but it seemed to be gaining on us very quickly. The light/s were now much brighter and I can distinctly remember seeing my son "lit" up in the driver's seat.

As we have a small based Aluminium Video Platform on top of the car I scrambled to the side of the first rail. The light appeared as one but was much larger and I estimated to BE APPROX. 30° ABOVE THE ROAD SURFACE. There was no Moon at that stage. It was not due until approx. 11.27 p.m. Similarly Jupiter was not due to rise until approx. 2.00 a.m.! I did not get up on to the platform but got back into the car. My son increased the speed of the car to approx. 85 - 90 kmhs. To alleviate the risk of alarming the situation any further I gave instructions to my son to concentrate ONLY on the road in front but when the Taminick Turnoff came up to do a quick right hand turn and STOP! (but not to switch the ignition off)

At this stage I think we had summed up our situation. This was like nothing we had encountered before. I began to go over the equipment as the "light" was pacing us down the road. The Lo lux VIDEO WAS COMPLETELY DRAINED OF POWER AS WAS ITS PORTA PAK. I COULD GET NO READINGS AT ALL! THERE WAS NO POWER TO SWITCH AT ALL!

Then I switched on the car radio which had been tuned to Radio Australia (Albury). They had been reporting all day on the NSW bushfires in between the cricket and the reception had been excellent. THE RECEPTION AT THIS STAGE WAS BARELY DISCERNIBLE > IT WAS SIMILAR TO BEING SURROUNDED BY LIGHTNING - SUCH WAS THE LEVEL OF STATIC.

<CONT 2>

<2>

The Taminick turn off was in sight and the plan was to execute a tight right hand turn and for me to get out of the car with as much of the camera equipment I could and try to get some shots of the phenomena.

As soon as we rounded the corner I placed the Janaflex camera WHICH WAS ON A SMALL LOW TERRAIN TRIPOD at the side of the car. The shutter was on f. Stop 1.8 at 1/60th. second with a broad band flash attached in the hope I could get both the object and part of a small tree or at least a fence post to "relate" the flying object with a fixed constant object. At this stage the readings in the large camera were beginning to fade due to some unexplained power failure.

The FLASH COMPLETELY FAILED but while the shutter appeared to be still functional I "fired off 2 shots of the object which was now gaining altitude to the SW. At this stage it "appeared to bank away from us". I fired off another 2 shots as "It" sped away into the SSW. The camera then jammed (I later found out that I had come to the end of the roll). The other camera just would not switch on!

We did speed up the "Gap" Rd. as the experience did leave us shaken. I SHOULD STATE HERE THAT THREE OTHER THINGS ARE WORTH NOTING. (A) THERE APPEARED TO BE A BAD SMELL. We blamed each other for our flatulence BUT IT APPEARED STRONGER OUT OF THE WINDOW(?) until we got halfway up to the winery.

(B) When we stopped the car at the turnoff It was definitely "warmer" AND THERE WAS NO DETECTABLE BREEZE. NOT ONLY THAT : THE SILENCE WAS DEAFENING TO SAY THE LEAST - No frogs ,Cricketts - NO SOUNDS OF THE NIGHT AT ALL - This IS strange for this location.

(c) I thought that as all of our equipment had "failed" that we would have no record of the event which disappointed us. BUT I THOUGHT I COULD DETECT A GLOWING "HALO" type of effect in the atmosphere over the lake. The last shot confirmed this later.

I believe we got back at 10.35 to 10.40p.m. but my son has said it was later!

Power and all functions returned to the large camera after I removed the film. The battery on the Video was drained and the battery in the AF777 had to be replaced!

I very nearly dispensed with this roll of film as I truly thought that due to all the cameras failing we would end up with a whole lot of nothing. WE VERY NEARLY DID. ONLY 10 or so IMAGES AT THE START OF THIS FILM WORKED. The rest of the exposures are "striped" or completely obliterated as you get closer to the end of the film. The image on one neg. has been CUT IN HALF - this has never happened before with this camera.

At no stage did I witness the colours that were developed at the lab. It always appeared to be a bright bluish light!

ALSO AT THIS STAGE MY EYES NEVER DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN THE SEPARATE SOURCES OF LIGHT THAT YOU SEE ON THE IMAGES? I CANT EXPLAIN THIS - MAYBE I WAS DAZZLED AS THE LIGHT WAS VERY INTENSE. THE FINAL SHOT IN RED IS IN 'REAL' TERMS INEXPLICABLE! THERE WAS MINIMAL CAMERA MOVEMENT AS I HAD IT SET ON A TRIPOD. I SAW THE OBJECT "BANK AWAY" BUT TO COVER THAT AREA IN 1/60TH. OF A SEC. ASSUMES RAPID (VERY RAPID) ACCELERATION.

We believe we have experienced an encounter with some type of flying machine that would appear to be technologically advanced. We further believe that in some way we were being "observed". (Why else would it "chase" us down the road). We further believe that what we experienced WAS NOT created by any known natural phenomenon that we have witnessed before - And we have been through some very rough weather in our travels. I have seen 'ball' lightning - it was not this! I have even seen "FIRE DAMP" or methane in coal mines in Sth. Gippsland But nothing like this. Whilst I am aware of previous types of sightings in this area the whole episode begs us all to keep an open mind. This was one "animal" that we certainly failed to identify!

Sighting Reports continued



UFO ENCOUNTER

P.O. BOX 222, 50 ALBERT STREET,
BRISBANE QLD 4002

THE REPORT:

Gordon (age 67) of Tingalpa, Brisbane, reported the following account.

"I went out on the back lawn to rinse out my dog's water dish....a strong light caught my eye in an easterly direction, above the roof of the house behind mine....it was still daylight....it was moving in a south-westerly directionall I could see was the light....As it came closer I was viewing it from the side, more so from the front, so the light became less intense.

By this stage I could see some details of the craft and it was close enough to see that as it moved along, it appeared to be rocking from side to side. It moved at a speed consistent with an aircraft but had no wings or tail and was completely silent....I watched it until it became a speck and disappeared in a south-westerly direction...."

Duration of sighting: 1 1/2 to 2 minutes. Object appeared to be silver in colour, and travelled across the sky at an altitude of 30° to 40° to the horizon. It was a clear and sunny afternoon, with little or no clouds.



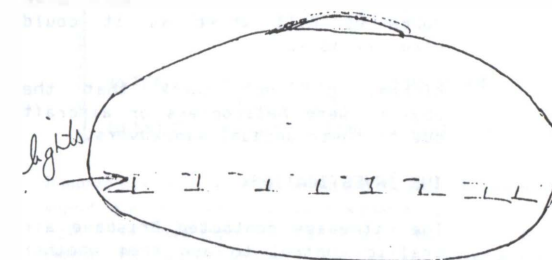
Sorry I'm no good at sketching. I think it was flatter & more streamlined than this shows.

THE REPORT:

John (age 61) of Camira, Brisbane, recounted an event that occurred 16 years ago. The report goes as follows:

"About 11pm, 5 kilometres after Inglewood heading towards Brisbane, we were looking at a very starry night sky....Then from the north a large oval shape object (outlined with lights) moved slowly across the sky. It was so large it covered stars at it moved in front of them. It was directly in front of us....when it began to move erratically, suddenly changing directions (up, down, across, up, down etc)....We were engulfed in total silence. The engine of the truck and the radio could not be heard."

Duration: ten seconds. Object disappeared upwards into the sky.



Sighting Reports

continued

UFO ENCOUNTER NO 156 DEC/JAN 1994

SIGHTINGS:

Compiled by Robert Frola

ROBERT FROLA/CHRIS HOLLOWAY/ BRAD FLANDERS Investigators
1993. BRISBANE, QLD (ALEXANDRA HILLS)
STATUS: CE1

THE REPORT:

While driving home at 1.00am around May/June 1993, Anne O'Connell and family saw three orange/yellow lights in the Wynnum area. First seen in a vertical formation at an elevation of 23 degrees. Whilst standing outside car after pulling over for better viewpoint, objects passed overhead and appeared to change to a triangular formation at 34 degrees elevation.

As the objects moved away, one object was seen to leave formation briefly, then regroup. The other two maintained their original formation. Their apparent size was estimated to be .01 of a radian, and was seen heading in a south-southwesterly direction.

Throughout the sighting their size did not alter, even when the objects were moving directly away from the witnesses towards trees on a nearby hill. Total length of observation was 10-15 minutes. In an attempt to gain a better viewing position, their car (6 cyc holden) under full acceleration, could not reach over 40kph up hill where as it could normally do so.

Micheal did not think that the objects were helicopters or aircraft due to their unusual manoeuvres.

THE INVESTIGATION:

The witnesses contacted Brisbane air traffic control to ask them whether there was any activity in the area.

They were informed that there was none, but have recieved many telephone reports of orange objects sighted over Brisbane. They also contacted the Planetarium with no success. Anna then contacted her mother to ask whether she had seen anything in the sky. Her mother said yes and had also contacted the ATC and was told the same story.

Objects appeared to be below the minimum altitude of 1000 feet as recommended by the FAC. Micheal & Anna seem to be moved by this experience, judging by the effect this sighting has had on them. Their two children, throughout the sighting, remained within the confines of the car.

It is our opinion that the objects seen did not behave in any way similar to that of conventional aircraft. Therefore, until further evidence comes to light this sighting will remain unidentified.

ROBERT FROLA/CHRIS HOLLOWAY
Investigators
NOVEMBER 1992? BRISBANE, QLD (BELMONT)
STATUS: NL

THE REPORT:

Sighting occurred in Mrs McDougall's backyard, at Belmont, Brisbane. Sighting lasted for 25 minutes. It was first seen at 40° north-east at an elevation of 33°. Object was travelling north. This object then turned to the west and passed overhead. Prior to its change in direction, the object zig-zagged across the sky. She then went indoors to retrieve her husband. He refused to come outside, so Mrs McDougall went back outside to continue observing the object.

The previous object had disappeared, though another was seen at 40° north-east heading south at an elevation of 31°. Object disappeared due east at an elevation of 51°.

Reports

CONTINUED

We have received quite a large number of 'lights in the sky' reports since the last publication. Some have been reported as being 'star-like', but 'stars' which maneuver in threes or fours, then disappear as if switched off. Some larger lights have been reported flying about the height of a small 'plane, some even closer to the road and low over properties, but, until we have received all the reports, and examined them thoroughly, we would prefer to hold them in abeyance until our next edition in September. Some of the following are very similar to accounts we have received.

STRANGE LIGHTS OVER SOUTH WALES

Investigator Alun Meredith

At 11.50pm on Monday, 27th July 1992, at the request of his wife Mr. W Price went out into the garden to bring in the washing. He commented that it was a beautiful clear night with no clouds in the sky and thousands of stars visible.

As he looked into the air his attention was taken by four orange coloured lights which were moving in a delta shape across the sky. At first he thought that the lights were on a passing aircraft, but suddenly a fifth light approached from the rear at very fast speed to join the other four. When the fifth light had joined the formation, the others started to move in and out from each other.

During this time there was no sound from the lights and Mr. Price, who had now been joined by his wife, watched until they disappeared into the distance.

GOLDEN GLOBE NEAR MILK HILL

Investigator Ann de Boisgelin

At 3.30am on Thursday, 30th July 1992, Mr. Horsewell was at the Milk Hill lay-by, on the Lockeridge to Alton Barns road, looking towards Milk Hill which was approximately one and a quarter miles away. It was a clear dry night as he looked towards Picked Hill, when he saw a fan-shaped silver light in the air above the horizon. At this moment dogs began barking, cockerels started crowing, and this continued for approximately thirty seconds.

Slowly a bright golden spot materialised at the base of the fan and steadily grew in size until it grew into a shimmering golden globe of light.

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It moved steadily towards Picked Hill and suddenly blinked out, appearing again closer to the hill, preceded by the fan shaped light. Again there appeared to be animal disturbance in the distance. He continued to observe the object as it moved across Picked Hill. Eventually the light blinked out and disappeared. He judged the object to be between 300 and 600 feet above the ground.

UNDERWATER CRAFT SEEN NEAR ICELAND

Reliable information has been received from contacts in Iceland that during the week ending 20th December 1992, Icelandic fishing boats operating off the south-east coast of Iceland had encountered very large, fast moving underwater craft which had numerous coloured flashing lights on them. They stated that the underwater objects were much larger than conventional submarines and moved at great speed.

It appears that these craft fouled the fishing nets from the boats and consequently destroyed them. As a result, Icelandic coast guard vessels put to sea to protect the fishing boats.

Reports from people at the scene stated that as the objects moved through the water, they appeared to be accompanied by a light in the sky which moved at the same speed and direction. The direction of travel was southeast of Iceland to northwest of Scotland.

By coincidence, a few days later, national newspapers in this country carried a story of a naval exercise taking place in the waters between Iceland and Scotland. Warships in the exercise had unexpectedly located a very large, fast moving unknown underwater object which they could not identify. The article said that the fleet was monitoring the movements of the object and thought that it must be a secret Russian *super-submarine*. It appears that the submarine will not answer messages and will not surface. Whatever it is, it is violating NATO territorial waters.

I thought the Cold War was a thing of the past and this type of clandestine submarine activity was at an end. *Well what do you think?*



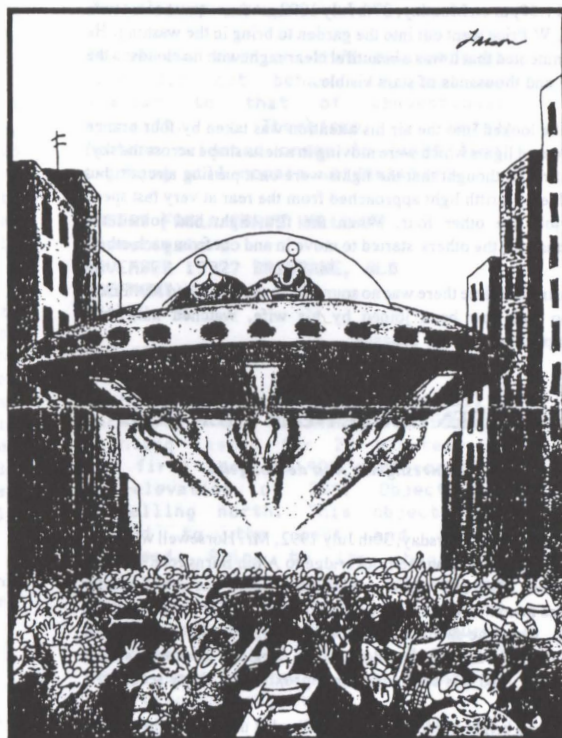
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"Yeeeeeeeeeeeha!"

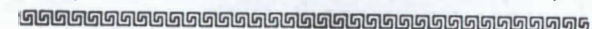
SOCIETY NEWS

VUFORS Book Sale!

The sale of the UFO book library continues. There are still some very good titles available and will be on display in the supper room, after the 6th June meeting.

V.U.F.O.R.S. Drinking Mug Only \$8.00 Available only at the VUFORS Quarterly Meeting

We still have some drinking mugs available. Buy more than one, and receive a reduction in price.



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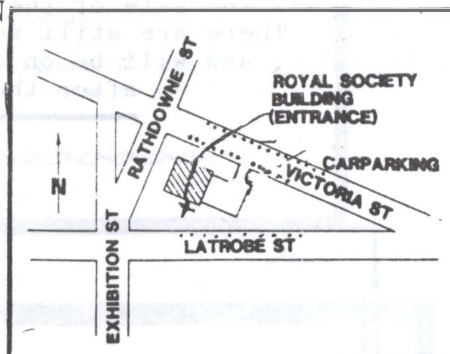
For Your Diary

MARCH	7th 1994	DISCUSSION
JUNE	6th 1994	"
SEPTEMBER	5th 1994	"
DECEMBER	5th 1994	A.G.M.

TIME 8.00p.m.

WHERE "The Royal Society of Victoria"
Victoria Street, Melbourne (SEE MAP)

COST FULL MEMBERSHIP NO CHARGE
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SOCIETY HISTORY

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

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